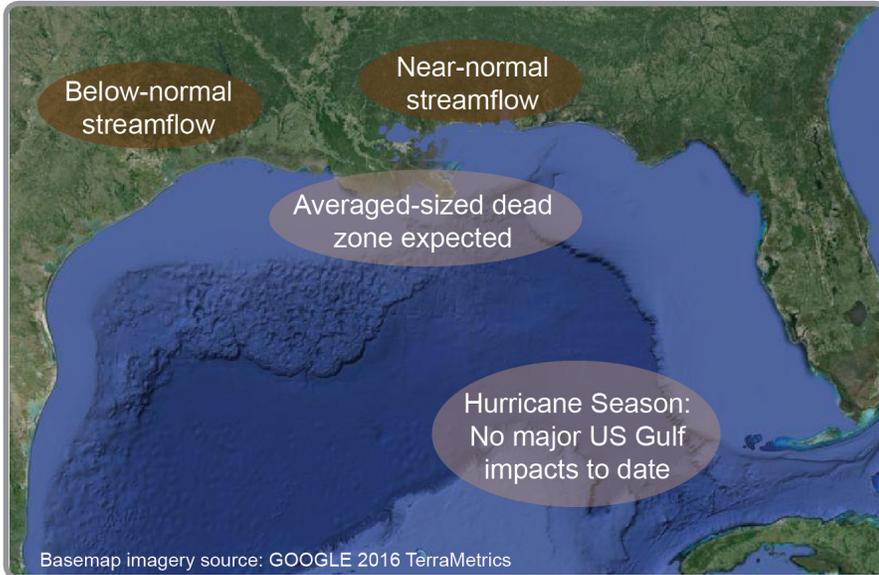


Significant Gulf Coast Events

Highlights



Streamflow Values Vary Along the Coast

Discharge values over July were slightly below normal along the Texas coastline and near Apalachee Bay, while normal flows were observed over much of the central gulf.

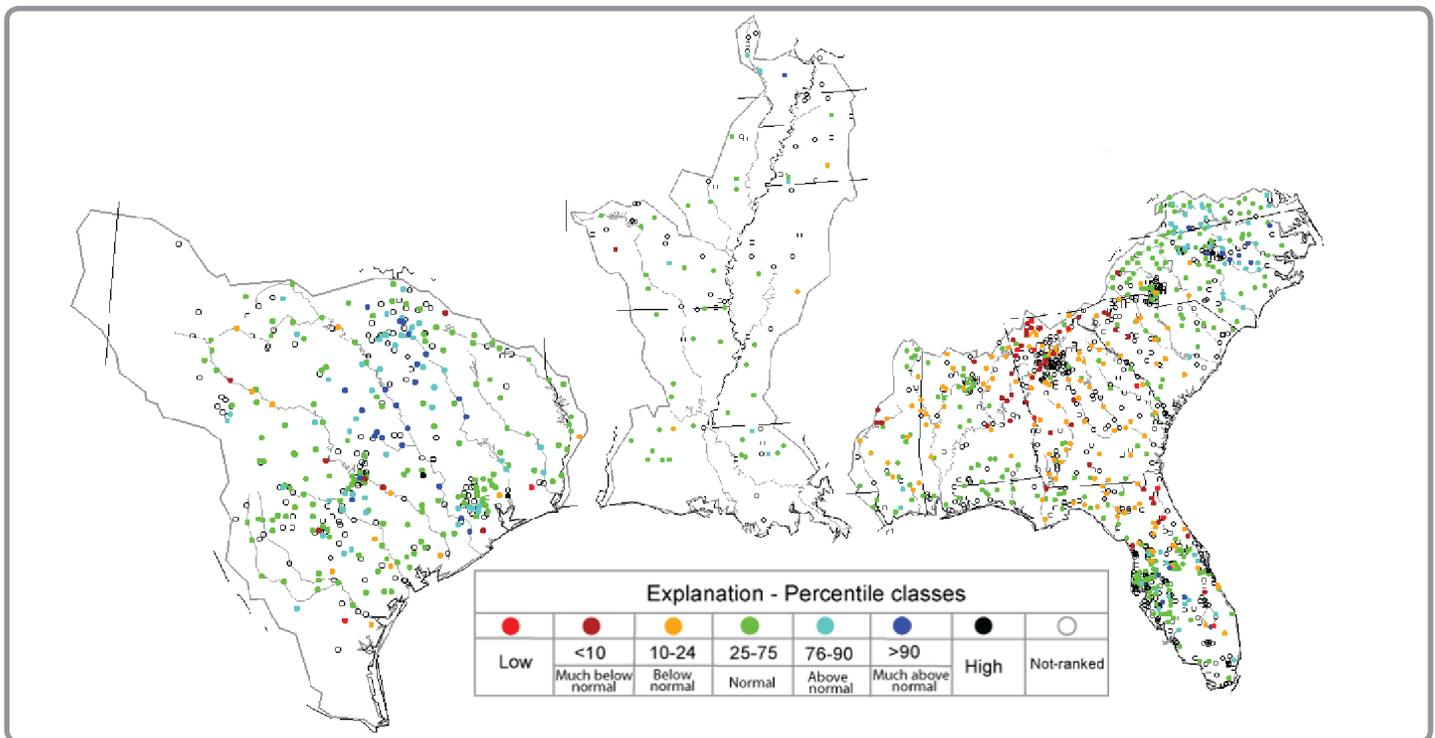
No Major US Gulf Tropical Cyclone Impacts to Date

As of August 16, 2016, there have been five named storms consisting of two hurricanes with no major impacts to the US Gulf region.

Gulf Coast Hypoxia

Scientists estimate that the hypoxic zone off the Gulf Coast of Louisiana will be roughly the size of the state of Connecticut.

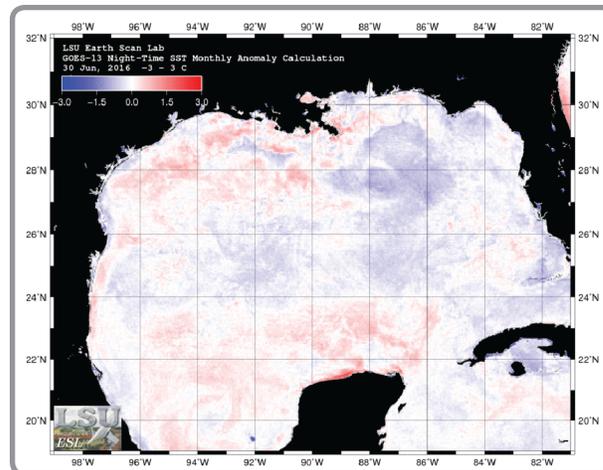
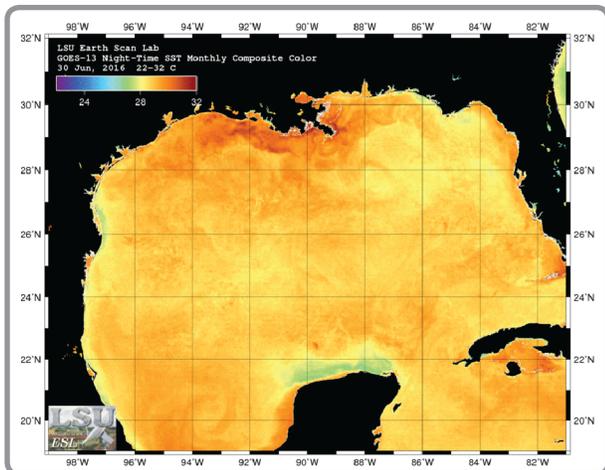
Monthly Streamflow Values for the Gulf of Mexico



Monthly streamflow compared to historical streamflow for July 2016 (southern United States)

The figure above shows near-normal stream flow values along much of the central Gulf coast, and along the western Florida peninsula. Below-normal flows are evident in the vicinity of Apalachee Bay and along parts of the Texas coastline. (Data and image source: waterdata.usgs.gov)

Gulf Sea Surface Temperatures (SST) and Temperature Anomalies



GOES Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) and Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies for June 2016

June sea surface temperatures were generally average across much of the Gulf of Mexico, with some areas experiencing slightly warmer temperatures and others slightly cooler. SSTs were slightly above normal off the Texas coast and along the coast of Louisiana, while the east central portion of the Gulf is indicating slightly cooler than normal SSTs. (Imagery provided courtesy Nan Walker, Earth Scan Laboratory, LSU School of the Coast and Environment, Baton Rouge, LA; <http://www.esl.lsu.edu>)

2016 Atlantic Hurricane Season

Just over two months into the 2016 Atlantic Hurricane Season tropical cyclone activity is approximately on par with pre-season forecasts from NOAA and Colorado State University. As of August 16, 2016, there have been five named storms, and only two minor (below Category 3) hurricanes. (See Table 1.)

Table 1: 2016 Atlantic Hurricane Season Storm Statistics

	NOAA Predicted	CSU Predicted	Seasonal Average	2016 Season (as of August 16)
Named Storms	10–16	13	12	5
Hurricanes	4–8	6	6	2
Major Hurricanes	3	2	3	0

Gulf Region Partners

Earth Scan Lab at Louisiana State University
www.esl.lsu.edu

NOAA/NWS Climate Prediction Center
www.cpc.noaa.gov

NOAA/NOS Gulf of Mexico Coastal Services Center
www.csc.noaa.gov

NOAA Gulf of Mexico Collaboration Team
www.regions.noaa.gov

NOAA/NESDIS National Centers for Environmental Information
www.ncei.noaa.gov

NOAA/NWS Southern Region
www.srh.noaa.gov

Southern Climate Impacts Planning Program
www.southernclimate.org

Southern Regional Climate Center
www.srcc.lsu.edu

Gulf Coast Hypoxia

Scientists have estimated that this year's Gulf Hypoxic Zone will be average in size. The actual estimate has the dead zone being 5898 square miles, which is roughly the size of the state of Connecticut. NOAA has noted that the forecasts have been improving due to both model improvements and the incorporation of more models, allowing them to produce an ensemble forecast. Like last year, the 2016 forecast was based on four individual models.

**For more information visit:
blog.srcc.lsu.edu**